available. Further no central allocation of funds is made by the Union Government for sending government employees of various Ministies/ Departments, Autonomous bodies and Parliament Secretariat, and expenditure in this regard is incurred by the concerned organisation.

(b) and (c) According to guidelines issued by Department of Personnel and Training, officers above 45 years of age are not, ordinarily, to be sent on long-term training courses abroad. For short-term training courses, the upper age limit prescribed is 52 years. Thus the age groups 31-40 and 41-50 are the ones from which officers are generally sent abroad for training.

Export of Software Computers

4467. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced new packages for the export of software computers from India ; and

(b) if so, what other facilities have been provided by Government for computer manufacturers to increase production and also for the export of computers to other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) In addition to the announcement of the Computer Policy in 1984 and the Policy on Computer Software Export, Software Development and Training in December, 1986, the Government has taken the following measures for the promotion of software export from India:

(i) A set of simplified procedures have been evolved for setting up of Joint venture abroad and the blanket permit by the Reserve Bank of India for meeting the marketing expenses for export oriented projects.

(ii) A Software Development Agency has been set up in the Department of Electronics for the promotion of software development and software export.

(iii) Government has decided to set up software technology parks for software export using satellite links. It is proposed to set up three technology parks one each at Bhubneswar, Pune and Bangalore during the first phase and at Chandigarh during the next phase. Such centres would cater to the requirements of software development units for 100 per cent export.

(iv) Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Electronics and the Office of the International Trade and Investment (OITI) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a Strategic Planning Study for an Indo-American Software Trade Network between Pune and Boston has been signed. This study will work out the plan of action to establish software export to US market.

(v) The Department of Electronics have launched extensive software export promotion campaign. Under this programme software seminars are being organised abroad to project Indian Capabilities. Government is also participating in the software exhibitions/fairs abroad.

(b) The following facilities have been provided by the Government to computer manufacturers to increase the production:

(i) Liberal import of design and drawing/technology is being considered favourably.

(ii) The capacity constraint has been practically removed.

(iii) To attract Investment in this area, a special MRTP waiver under Sections 21 & 22 of the MRTP Act has been given.

(iv) To give flexibility manufacturing, approvals are being given with broad band description for the product and the units are allowed to take up manufacture of allowed items and sub-assemblies in the group without obtaining fresh industrial licence.

(v) Concessional duty for import of capital goods for initial setting up of the project.

(vi) Concessional duty on import of raw materials.

For promoting export of electronics goods including computer systems, a number of incentives have been extended to the industry which include Cash Compensatory Support, Duty Drawback, advance licensing and import replanishment licences. Besides, a five year tax holiday, option to claim Cash Compensatory Support have been given to the units in the Export Processing Zones and those under 100% export oriented scheme.

Formulation of Irrigation Schemes

4468. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Madhya Pradesh have provided Rs. 70 lakhs for irrigation in Gwalior district ;

(b) if so, what is the total area that will be irrigated under the scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government had formulated a scheme of irrigational importance with the guidance of Central Government ; and

(d) if so, what extent Central Government has agreed to provide help and assistance to the State in regard to the irrigation development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) Irrigation schemes are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments. Information about district-wise allocation of funds is not maintained at the Centre.

(c) and (d) The State Government has formulated a scheme for Irrigation Advancement under the Special Food Production Programme. The Centre has agreed to provide a sum of Rs. 160 lakhs for two projects and Rs. 640 lakhs for Tank Irrigation as advance Plan assistance under this scheme for irrigation development.

Technology Missions under C-DOT Advisor

†4468-A SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Advisor of C-DOT is also in charge of several other Technology Missions and if so, what are the details thereof ;

(b) what is the performance of the ongoing Technology Missions under C-DOT Advisor and whether these are running as per schedule ;

(c) whether, in view of the successes, C-DOT Advisor is taking up new Missions and if so, what are the details thereof ; and

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†Previously Unstarred Question 3625, transferred from the 29th August, 1988.